

Sapri to Stromboli

The longest day of this stretch: about 79 nautical miles south across the open Tyrrhenian Sea from the Gulf of Policastro to Stromboli, the active volcano at the north-east corner of the Aeolian Islands.

DATE	Tuesday 29 June 2027
DISTANCE	78.1 nm, 3 legs
TIME	12 h 24 min
DEPART	05:30 CEST from Sapri. At first light, at sunrise (05:31 CEST), after the weather day at Sapri.
ARRIVE	About 17:54 CEST at Stromboli. In the early evening, with about 2 hours 35 minutes of daylight in hand (sunset 20:28 CEST).
TIDES	Range about 0.2 m: no practical effect
WIND	Light in settled weather; the maestrale (north-west) is fair. A scirocco is on the nose
BOAT	35 to 38 ft sailing yacht, 1.9 m draught, 6 kn under sail, 5.5 kn under engine
CREW	Skipper and 3 crew, 2 watches of 2. A 13-hour day: meals prepared ahead



Track and waypoints 1 to 2, with ports of refuge as squares.

Go or no-go

Decide the evening before and confirm at 05:00 CEST. Go only if all of these hold:

- ☐ Settled forecast for the whole day: no wind above force 5, and no northerly or easterly above force 4, which make Stromboli's anchorages untenable.
- ☐ Stromboli's alert level and any sea exclusion zone checked: see Hazards.

☐ Crew rested: this is a 13-hour day.

This is the leg the weather day at Sapri is for. If the forecast is still wrong, wait. Tropea, on the Calabrian coast 30 nm east of Stromboli, is the alternative landfall.

Route and waypoints

Waypoints are planning positions in open water, checked against a 1:10m coastline to be at least 1.5 nm off land except at the harbour ends. Distances and courses are calculated from them. Plot every one on the current chart before use. Courses are true.

#	WAYPOINT	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	COURSE	LEG NM	TOTAL NM	ETA	NOTES
0	Sapri	40°03.8'N	015°37.7'E				05:30 CEST	Depart at first light.
1	Sapri approach	40°03.6'N	015°37.3'E	230°T	0.4	0.4	05:36 CEST	Out of the harbour, so
2	East of Strombolicchio	38°49.5'N	015°17.0'E	192°T	75.8	76.2	17:15 CEST	Open sea the whole way. Strombolicchio 1 nm d
3	Stromboli, off Scari	38°48.2'N	015°15.2'E	227°T	1.9	78.1	17:54 CEST	Anchor or pick up a mooring. Ficogrande. Position a

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Tides and time

SAPRI · TUE 29 JUN · CEST (UTC+2)

HW	05:11	0.3 m
LW	11:54	0.1 m
HW	18:09	0.2 m
LW	23:58	0.1 m

From the Palinuro station.

STROMBOLI · TUE 29 JUN · CEST (UTC+2)

HW	05:08	0.3 m
LW	11:47	0.1 m
HW	18:21	0.2 m
LW	23:36	0.1 m

From the Strombolicchio station.

Tuesday 29 June 2027. **Tides.** The range here is 0.1 to 0.3 m: tides make no practical difference. Wind and air pressure move the sea level more than the tide does.

Stromboli uses the Strombolicchio station.

Tide times are predictions made for this plan from the TICON-4 harmonic constants (DGFI-TUM) with the Neaps tide predictor, because the official 2027 tables were not yet published when it was written. Tested against the official APDL table for Leixões on 23 July 2026, the predicted times were within 8 minutes and the heights 0.1 to 0.2 m lower. Heights are above lowest astronomical tide. Check every time against the official 2027 table before sailing.

Daylight. Sunrise at Sapri 05:31 CEST. Sunset at Stromboli 20:28 CEST.

Weather

- **Open sea.** 70 nm with no shelter.
- **Stromboli** has no harbour. The anchorages off Scari and Ficogrande are deep, close in, and open to the north and east.

FORECASTS TO CHECK

- Italian forecasts: Aeronautica Militare Meteomar and gale warnings (avviso di burrasca), meteoam.it. Forecast areas Tirreno meridionale, Stretto di Sicilia and Ionio. Zone names and issue times: [CHECK THE PILOT BOOK](#)
- NAVTEX Augusta: 518 kHz, station V. Roma: station R. Check the times on the receiver.
- Italian coast radio VHF weather broadcasts: [CHECK THE PILOT BOOK](#)

Hazards

- **The volcano.** Stromboli erupts continually, with explosions every few minutes and occasional larger eruptions, lava flows down the Sciara del Fuoco on the north-west side, and tsunamis from landslides into the sea. Civil Protection raised it to its highest alert level in July 2024. Any exclusion zone at sea off the Sciara del Fuoco, and any limit on approaching or anchoring off the island, could not be checked. Read the Civil Protection bulletin and the Capitaneria's ordinance before sailing.
- **Night viewing.** Boats gather off the Sciara del Fuoco after dark to watch the eruptions. This plan is daylight only: watch from the anchorage.
- **Aeolian Islands reserves.** Strombolicchio, Lisca Bianca and Basiluzzo are integral nature reserves: landing is allowed for science only. Panarea and the rocks round it are in a reserve on land. Whether a marine protected area or anchoring bans apply round these islands in 2027 could not be checked. Ask the Capitaneria at Lipari before anchoring.
- **Hydrofoils and ferries** into Scari from Milazzo, Naples and the other islands.

Ports of refuge

PORT	FROM THE ROUTE	USE IT WHEN	NOTES
Sapri	Start	Within the first 2 hours	Harbour.
Tropea	30 nm east of Stromboli	Weather turns or Stromboli closed	Marina. CHECK THE PILOT BOOK
Lipari or Vulcano	20 nm south-west	Stromboli untenable	Harbours.

Pilotage

LEAVING SAPRI

1. Leave at first light and head south-south-west out of the Gulf of Policastro.
2. Set the course for Strombolicchio, about 70 nm.

ARRIVING AT STROMBOLI

1. Pass south of Strombolicchio, 1 nm off.
2. Anchor off Scari or Ficogrande in sand, clear of the ferry landing; depths drop off fast.
Moorings, operators and depths: [CHECK THE PILOT BOOK](#)

LIGHTS ON THE WAY

Capo Palinuro	Fl(3) 15s, 206 m, 25 M
Strombolicchio	Fl(3) 15s, 57 m, 11 M

Communications

Sapri harbour	VHF 16 · +39 0973 033472
Stromboli moorings	CHECK ON THE CHART
Emergency at sea, Italy (Guardia Costiera)	VHF 16, DSC 70 · 1530
Emergency on land	112

Contingencies

- **Behind time.** If the halfway point is not reached by 12:00 CEST, turn back to Sapri or bear away for Tropea.
- **Eruption or alert raised.** Stay well off the island and go on to Lipari or Vulcano.

- **Person overboard.** Shout, point, throw the danger buoy, press MOB, DSC distress alert, Mayday on 16.

Before leaving

- ☐ Forecasts read and logged before the go or no-go time
- ☐ Italian notices to mariners (Avvisi ai naviganti) checked for the route
- ☐ Waypoints entered and checked against the chart
- ☐ Ship's log started in UTC
- ☐ Crew briefing: route, watches, safety gear, MOB, fog
- ☐ Stromboli alert level and Civil Protection notices checked
- ☐ Meals for a 13-hour day prepared

- ☐ Fuel for 15 hours under engine, plus a reserve
- ☐ Water, food and hot drinks for 16 hours
- ☐ Lifejackets with crotch straps, jackstays rigged, harnesses
- ☐ Liferaft, grab bag, flares in date, handheld VHF
- ☐ Radar, AIS and navigation lights tested
- ☐ Passports, boat papers and insurance aboard

Sources

- Aeolian Islands: Italian Wikipedia pages for Stromboli, Strombolicchio, Vulcano, Panarea, Lisca Bianca and Basiluzzo (secondary).
- Stromboli alert level: English Wikipedia, “Stromboli”; check the Civil Protection site, protezionecivile.gov.it.
- Capitaneria di porto ordinances for Lipari, Milazzo, Messina, Catania, Siracusa and Pozzallo could not be read: guardiacostiera.gov.it was unreachable. [CHECK THE PILOT BOOK](#)
- Lights in Italy: Wikipedia, List of lighthouses in Italy (characteristics, heights, ranges); check against the Italian Navy list of lights (Elenco dei fari).
- NAVTEX: NGA Pub 117, chapter 3.
- Pelagos Sanctuary: pelagos-sanctuary.org; islepark.it.
- Italian harbour ordinances (Capitanerie di porto) could not be read for this plan: guardiacostiera.gov.it was unreachable. [CHECK THE PILOT BOOK](#)
- Tides: predictions from TICON-4 harmonic constants (Hart-Davis, Dettmering and Seitz, DGFI-TUM, 2025, doi 10.17882/109129) with Neaps (openwaters.io). Check against the Instituto Hidrográfico 2027 tables.

- Sunrise and sunset: calculated (NOAA method).
- Lights: The Lighthouse Directory (Rowlett), ibiblio.org/lighthouse, Portugal pages revised August 2024. Cross-check with the IH List of Lights, volume I.
- Pilot: RCC Pilotage Foundation, Atlantic Spain and Portugal, 9th edition (2025).

A planning exercise to RYA Yachtmaster standard. Not for navigation: use current official charts, the pilot book and the forecasts on the day.